

Appln No. 10/659,020
Amdt. Dated April 29, 2005
Response to Office Action of April 8, 2005

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**AMENDMENT**

In response to the Examiner's first Office Action of April 8, 2005 in the present RCE, the Applicant submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks directed thereto.

Claims 1-11 are currently pending in the present RCE. In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to clarify that the claimed casing is configured to operatively engage the supply of ink with the printing device with which the cartridge is to be used. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, at page 5, line 6-page 6, line 4 and page 6, line 21-page 7, line 2 of the present specification;

dependent claim 9 is amended to correct a typographical error; and

claims 2-8, 10 and 11 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

REMARKS***Regarding Allowable Subject Matter***

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication as to the allowability of claims 8-11 under the conditions specified in the present Office Action.

Regarding 35 USC 102(e) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-11 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed by newly cited Koga (USP 6,056,286) for at least the following reasons.

In the present invention, the cartridge 1 is a multipurpose cartridge in that it is used to supply both print media and ink to the printing device to which it is to be used. In order to provide ease of use and effective manufacture of the cartridge 1, not only is the print media transport mechanism 7 of the cartridge 1 arranged to engage with gearing in the

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printing device (as previously described by the Applicant in the prosecution of the present application), but the ink supply chambers 27 are also arranged to operatively engage with the printing device (i.e., be placed in fluid communication) via ink connection nozzles 34 upon connection of the cartridge 1 and the printing device (see page 5, line 6-page 6, line 4 and page 6, line 21-page 7, line 2 of the present specification). Independent claim 1 has been further amended to clarify this feature of the present invention.

In the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that Koga discloses that the cut-sheet feeder 1 (the Examiner's "cartridge") has a casing which includes a supply of ink, being the disclosed ink cartridge 51. However, it appears from the description and drawings of Koga that the ink cartridge receiving section 5 is only provided on the sheet stacking section 2 so that "spare" ink cartridges 51 can be accommodated on the cut-sheet feeder 1 (see col. 5, lines 4-13 of Koga).

That is, the ink cartridge receiving section of the cut-sheet feeder of Koga is not arranged so that the ink cartridge(s) 51 are operatively engaged with the image forming apparatus 10 when the cut-sheet feeder is installed thereon. Furthermore, there is no suggestion from the disclosure of Koga for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Koga to provide such engagement, since the cut-sheet feeder 1 is not described as a combined print media and ink supply cartridge.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended claim 1, and claims 2-11 dependent therefrom, is neither disclosed nor suggested by Koga.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

Applicant:



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